

Summer Time News

We are halfway through the year already and summer has arrived at last. This is the time of the year when things are generally quiet for The Civic Trust and village matters tick away in the background.

We changed the format of our June meeting and decided to have a ticket event to allow us to provide a lighter hearted speaker followed by a buffet supper. This went down very well with our members who attended, but I have to apologise to those who could not get a ticket. We decided to limit the numbers attending to ensure the room was not overfull and spoil the evening for everyone. The event was a sell out so many thanks to those who supported us.

On the planning front things are not ticking away so quietly for two important projects in the village. The College Playing Field Site is still causing concern. Bellway are seeking permission from The Highways Department at Stafford to use Walford Road and Fairfield Avenue for access. This is despite the fact that the outline consent granted by the Secretary of State required all construction traffic to access the site via Needwood Avenue, Garrett Square and Forest School Street only. The Parish Council and The Civic Trust have voiced objections to Bellway’s proposal. The other area of concern is The Brook House site where permission for the construction of new houses on the car park area at the rear has been rejected. The listed farmhouse and barns are deteriorating alarmingly while the planning process grinds on, something needs to be done to protect these buildings

Our Neighbourhood plan is also ticking away quietly in the background. The Regulation 14 public consultation period was completed and many people responded by making points, corrections and observations, all of which were gratefully received by the plan group. The plan has been amended in line with these comments where deemed necessary. However, due to a delay in the issue of explanatory leaflets to some areas of the village, it has been decided that the statutory six week public consultation period should be run again to ensure total fairness to all Rolleston residents. This will ensure everyone has received the full six week period to make comment. This second consultation period should now be underway. This will lead to some delay before we can progress to the Regulation 16 Stage and then on to independent examination, but it is an essential step to take to ensure our plan is sound in every way.

The work to obtain the Heritage Lottery Grant for Brook Hollows is also proceeding quietly, September being the crucial date when all should be revealed.

No major revelation’s then, but then perhaps not such a quiet summer after all. Don’t forget our talks programme recommences on the **19th September**, come and join us

Peter Barnett

**MONTHLY MEETINGS**

Our last meeting before the Summer break replaced our usual, annual ‘Walk and Talk’ around somewhere local, followed by supper at a suitable hostelry. We decided to stay ‘in house’ and had a an entertaining speaker, David Tideswell, talking about ‘The Blue Tit: Raising a Family’, after which we had a light buffet supper prepared by Helen Barnett, Linda Martin and me. It was a very enjoyable evening, and the weather was kind enough to allow us to enjoy the sunset outside the Cricket club.

Our new ‘term’ begins on **September 19th**, when Steve Bull will be telling us about the Burton and Ashby tramways. On **October 17th** we have Graham Nutt from the Magic Attic, and our final speaker of the year is Malcolm Goode who, on **November 21st**, will round off four years of commemorating the centenary of World War One with ‘Burton at War in 1918’.

Our monthly meetings are held at Rolleston Cricket Club, 7.30pm for an 8pm start, and all are welcome.

Many thanks to Rolleston Cricket Club for being so welcoming at our meetings.

Sue Fraser